

Chapter Six

Indiana Language Acquisition Assessment System (ILAAS)

The Purpose of LAS Links

CTB/McGraw-Hill's *LAS Links*® assessments are used in Indiana to determine a student's level of English proficiency. The placement test, administered upon the student's arrival in the United States, is used to determine appropriate services for the student. The annual assessment, administered during the January/February testing window, determines the student's current level of English proficiency and is used for accountability purposes.

Structure of LAS Links for 2012-2013

Testing personnel should note the following regarding the administration of the 2012-2013 LAS Links Assessments:

1. LAS Links consists of two assessments: a placement test and an annual assessment.
2. **The results from the placement test must be communicated to parents within 30 days at the start of the school year and within two weeks of arrival later in the school year.** Placement tests are scored locally. Training for administration and scoring of the placement tests is offered in August. Additional information regarding training is available in the IDOE-LAS Links Assessment – Administrators Community in Learning Connection. Placement tests may be ordered from the CTB/Indiana Help Desk by calling 800-282-1132, Option 4.
3. The annual LAS Links assessment is administered in late winter each school year, preceding the Applied Skills ISTEP+ assessment window. This assessment is given to students classified as Levels 1-4 and to students who have NOT received a level five classification for two consecutive data points. For the annual assessment, the speaking portion is scored locally. The other portions are submitted to CTB for scoring. Training is offered in January for the administration and scoring of the annual assessment. **The results from the annual LAS Links assessment must be communicated to parents within 30 days at the start of the school year.**
4. Both placement tests and annual assessments are offered by grade span. Pre-LAS 2000 is the placement test offered for Kindergarten students.
5. Both assessments are designed to evaluate students on listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension. The placement test is used for identification and placement into English language development services; the annual LAS Links assessment is used for measuring annual growth and for program exit.
6. For newly arrived LEP students in their first year of U.S. schooling, for one time only, the annual LAS Links assessment may be substituted for the English/Language Arts portion of the ISTEP+ assessment utilizing Federal Flexibility (see page 7 of *Chapter 10: Test Administration & Reporting*). This is a school corporation-wide decision, and the names of students must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education in May.

Additional information regarding accommodations for students with limited English proficiency can be found in *Appendices C and I*.

LAS Links Assessment Windows for 2012-2013

Window	Dates	Scoring
Placement Test	Based on student's arrival	Scored locally
Annual Assessment	January 23 – March 1, 2013	Speaking portion scored locally; other portions submitted to CTB for scoring

For additional information, please access <http://www.doe.in.gov/achievement/assessment>.